



MANATABA MESSENGER

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Volume VI Issue V

October, 2008

Tribal Council elections to be held Dec. 6

Four Council seats up for public vote; candidate petitions due by Nov. 2

The Tribal Council has set the schedule for this year's Tribal Council elections.

The seats of Chairman Daniel Eddy, Secretary Valerie Welsh-Tahbo and Councilmembers Dennis Patch, Herman "T.J." Laffoon and Bo Flores are up for re-election.

The following is the schedule approved by the Tribal Council for the upcoming Tribal elections, to take place on Saturday, December 6.

- Saturday, August 9 — Regular Tribal Council meeting to certify, by resolution, review the Election Ordinance, and Order Posting, 2008 General Election Schedule, Election Regulations, Election Budget, approve Notice of Election and Absentee Ballot Request. Selection of the 2008 Election Overseer.

- Friday, September 5 — Posting of Election Ordinance in the designated areas: Tribal Administrative Center, PHS Indian Hospital, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Irataba Hall, Parker Post Office, Poston Post Office.

- Monday, September 22 — Notice of Election mailed to Tribal membership with Absentee Ballot Request Form. Election Board applications are available.

- Tuesday, October 7 — Special Tribal Council meeting at 1:30 p.m. to certify the Eligible Voter's List. Approve Official Nomination Petition and Declaration of Candidacy Form.

Resignations of Council members who are candidates for Chairman. Vice-Chairman is

Please see ELECTION, Page 12

Native American Days celebrated



(Above) Baby Contest winners in the infant division, from left to right, 3rd Place Layvin Sakenima; 2nd Place Jordyn Renee Villaneda; and 1st Place Marley Neolch Welsh. (Left) The Moore Hopi Dancers perform at Native American Days.

The 36th Annual Native American Days Celebration was once again a big hit with tribal members.

Held from October 3-6, the event was scaled back this year because of budget constraints but still included many of CRIT members' favorite events, such as the Miss CRIT Pageant, CRIT Baby Contest and performances by Native American singers and dancers.

See Page 7 for the results of the Miss CRIT Pageant, and Page 8 for more photos from this year's event.

All photos courtesy of Valerie Welsh-Tahbo.

In This Issue...

- BlueWater works to increase business during economic downturn, Page 3
- Photo Contest results, Page 4-5
- New Miss CRIT, royalty, Page 7
- Photo package from Native American Days, Page 7-8
- Overview of Arizona ballot propositions and candidates, Page 10

Wal-Mart breaks ground on center

Construction beginning with estimated timeline of one year; opening late '09

Wal-Mart has broken ground on its new shopping center in Parker, and construction activities are ramping up.

The CRIT Tribal Council has approved the signage for the Wal-Mart shopping center in Parker, as well as a permit to allow a construction fence to be built around the site.

Wal-Mart typically has an 8-9 month construction timeframe, but no specific timeframe has been given for the Parker center.

Wal-Mart signed its lease with CRIT and

began sending lease payments to the Tribes earlier this year.

The new shopping center will be located across from the Safeway Center on Highway 95.

"We're getting closer and closer to a grand opening date on this important shopping center," said Tribal Chairman Daniel Eddy, Jr. "We still believe strongly that this center will be an important asset to our community."

As proposed, the new store will be about 100,000 square feet and include groceries and general merchandise. The center will include a

Please see WAL-MART, Page 12

News & Information From Your Tribal Council



Daniel Eddy, Jr.
Chairman



Eldred Enas
Vice Chairman



Valerie Welsh-Tahbo,
Secretary



Dennis Welsh, Jr.,
Interim Treasurer



Daphne Hill-Poolaw



Dennis Patch



Herman "TJ"
Laffoon



Fernando "Bo"
Flores



Richard
Armstrong

Focus of Tribal Council continues to be building a better quality of life

Recently, it has been reported in local publications that there have been some issues regarding a couple of Tribal Council members.

Tribal Chairman Daniel Eddy, Jr. had a legal issue in California during the summer which has since been addressed and resolved.

And Tribal Councilmember Daphne Hill-Poolaw is no longer serving as CRIT's treasurer, a position that is being filled on an interim basis by Dennis Welsh (Hill-Poolaw remains on the Council).

It would be easy to look at these circumstances and wonder if they might be a distraction. But the CRIT Tribal Council has been committed to making sure they are not, and that the focus of their work continues to be on improving the quality of life for Tribal members. Besides, we should always respect people for wanting to serve the public.

The people of CRIT continue to face significant issues as a community. There's always room for improvement — although tremendous strides have been made over the years in economic development, health services, education and many other areas.

And despite any outside issues that come up, the Tribal Council remains committed first and foremost to addressing those issues.

With that said, Tribal Council elections are coming up on December 6. Six seats will be up for re-election (five seats that are regularly scheduled to be up for election, plus the seat of Vice Chairman will be open because Eldred Enas has announced his intention to run for Chairman). Therefore, there's a good chance that the Tribal Council will see new faces in the coming months. And such changes are part of having an elected government. But no matter who serves in elected office, it's important for them — and for the entire Tribal Council — to continue to make sure the people of CRIT are always Priority Number 1.

The people of CRIT have a long-standing sense of community and public service. Tribal members can be assured that there are many talented people out there ready to serve the public. And they can feel good about the focus and commitment of those currently in elected office.

CRIT thanks Fisher for service, welcomes Pierce

If you ever wonder if your vote counts, just ask County Supervisor Gene Fisher.

Fisher has been in office for many years now and has represented the area of La Paz County that includes the CRIT Reservation.

But in the September 2 primary, Fisher lost his seat by the smallest of margins — a vote total of 156-155 going to opponent Sandy Norris Pierce.

The race was so close that officials from the state came out to Parker to oversee a recount.

And the close nature of the race leaves us with three thoughts:

First, CRIT would like to thank Gene Fisher for his service as La Paz County Supervisor. He has been a tremendous friend to CRIT, and we hope he will continue in public service to the

people of La Paz County in some capacity.

Second, CRIT would like to congratulate Sandy Norris Pierce on her victory, and wish her the best in the November 4 General Election. Should she prevail, CRIT looks forward to establishing a strong working relationship that will improve the lives of people on the CRIT Reservation and in La Paz County as a whole.

And third, as we head into a historic General Election and into Tribal Council elections following that, it's important that CRIT Tribal members exercise their right to vote. It is our way of making sure our voices are heard on a variety of issues at the local, state and national levels. And if you ever wonder if it's worth your time, just think of the case of our good friend, Gene Fisher.

California dispute resident's letter deserves answer

Recently, the *Parker Pioneer* ran a letter to the editor from one of the members of the group of California residents disputing CRIT's ownership of lands they are leasing in the state.

The resident was gracious enough to take time out of his busy schedule of trying to strip away CRIT's land rights to write a letter providing advice to tribal members on how to run their government.

The letter includes a number of somewhat bizarre claims and accusations that do not, individually, hold merit or deserve a response. However, two key points should be made.

First, he and other California residents involved in this dispute should keep in mind that all CRIT has ever asked of them is to honor the terms of the leases they, themselves, signed.

Instead of simply honoring those terms, they've attempted to engineer a land grab so that CRIT would be stripped of its lands in California. If it wasn't for their actions, CRIT would not have had to pursue legal recourse against them — recourse which is proceeding in CRIT's favor so far.

And second, CRIT tribal members elect their leaders in democratic elections, just as everyone in America does. We don't need a bunch of outsiders to tell us how to run tribal government. We can make our own decisions, without the interference of outsiders.

We would encourage those outsiders who want to strip CRIT of their lands to spend less time writing letters, and more on adhering to the terms of their leases.

— Letter to the Editor —

Dear Editor:

Our long silence must come to an end. As a Native American, I am deeply, earnestly and devoted to urging one and all to join the ranks of voters. The current issues facing the Native American people are continuous.

You need only read the papers or watch the news to find the breath and scope of the issues facing the general public. What are missing from the list of issue are the issues confronting the Native American people.

We have rights to assert and wrongs to address. We are bound by our self interests, sympathies and destiny to unite and address the task before us. We again find ourselves facing a new assault. Our way of life, our tribal grounds and our dignity as fellow wanderers in this great

land is at risk. These issues will tax our highest mental and moral ability to insure a fair and equitable solution.

The powers that be, will offer new language, new platforms and new services to persuade you to vote for them, but do not be fooled, for it will be the same old snake but with a new skin. We must continually raise our voices against the ever-present attempts to abridge our Tribal Sovereignty as well as those protections conceded to us by a new and budding government of a time past.

To protect, preserve and enhance our people is our duty. So I urge you to vote for your people.

Benjamin Chee
Tribal Member

BlueWater works to attract visitors

Effort made to maintain revenues by enhancing casino and resort amenities

The BlueWater Resort & Casino is making a concerted effort to counter the downturn in the national economy and declining gaming revenues by attracting more visitors and improving their experience at the property.

Gaming revenues have been down throughout the country as the economy has weakened. In Arizona, gaming revenues have dropped statewide by 7.5 percent, according to recent figures from the Arizona Department of Gaming.

The effects of the downturn unfortunately have not spared the BlueWater.

“Being in a rural area, we have seen the effect of today’s economy,” said Dempsey Holt, one of the members of the BlueWater’s management team. “We have had to do several several things to deal with this.”

The effort started last year with renovations to the West Tower of the hotel, and continued with other renovations throughout the property.

Renovations were done on all the suites of both towers along with the patio areas, and all the walkways were resurfaced on both towers. A new paint job was also applied to the Casino.

The Atrium pool was completely renovated with new plaster in all the pools and spa, and new pool decking was also applied with new tile placed in the pool and water features.

The BlueWater has also stepped up its marketing campaign, including television, radio and direct mail advertisements.

From a gaming standpoint, the casino is now offering more aggressive promotions.

And the slot machines on the gaming floor have been “revalued,” allowing for more payouts to visitors in an effort to keep them coming back while maximizing casino revenues.

The BlueWater has also improved its signage along Highway 95 so that it is more noticeable for drive-by traffic.

Combined, Holt said that the goal is to make sure the BlueWater can continue to provide as much revenue to CRIT as possible for critical tribal programs and services.

Upcoming Events

BlueWater Resort & Casino events

- The Fourth Annual BlueWater Resort & Casino 300 Enduro boat race will be held on Saturday, October 25. See some of the most familiar faces in boat racing and some brand new one that are up to the challenge. The race consists of 60 laps between BlueWater and Badenoch’s. For more on this annual event contact Ross Wallach at (310) 318-4012 or rossdbos26@yahoo.com, or on the web at www.scscracing.com.

- The Annual Halloween Costume Party will take place in the Dig Lounge on October 31. Cash prizes will be award for the Best Costumes — \$600 for first place, \$250 for second place and \$150 for third place. For more information contact Karen Anderson at 928-669-7076 or email at kanderson@bluewaterfun.com.

- The BlueWater Resort & Casino will host the “Dam to Dam BlueWater Big Bass Classic” Bass Tournament on Saturday, November 1. Local anglers vie for the guaranteed \$1,000 first prize for this event, with payouts to seventh place based on number of entries. Registration for the Dam to Dam will be on October 31 in the Hopi/Chemehuevi rooms from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information contact Dempsey Holt at (928) 669-7035 or dholt@bluewaterfun.com.

- The Third Annual Veteran’s Recognition Day will held at the BlueWater Amphitheatre on November 8. For more information on this event contact Beatrice Herder at (928) 669-5314, Ronda Flores at (928) 916-3444 or Phoebe Welch at (928) 662-4424.

- The Eighth Annual BlueWater Resort & Casino Triathlon will take place on November 9. Talented triathletes from all over the Southwest will be descending on Parker to participate in this annual swim, bike and run event. For more information on this annual event contact Eddie Carlin at (928) 526-8761 or visit www.mountainmaneevents.com.

- The BlueWater Resort & Casino proudly presents the 62nd Annual Thanksgiving Regatta speed boat races on November 28 and 29. Boats include Stock Outboards, Pro-Stock, GN’s, Cracker Box, Tunnel Lights and K-boats. For more on this annual event contact Ross Wallach at (310) 318-4012 or rossdbos26@yahoo.com or on the web at www.scscracing.com.

- The Parker Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Lighted Boat Parade will be held on November 29. The parade begins at the Marina of BlueWater at 6 p.m.; also Santa will be on hand to see who’s been naughty or nice. For more information contact the Parker Area Chamber of Commerce at (928) 669-2174.

Dig Lounge schedule

Beginning on November 5, the Dig Lounge bands will go back to four days a week Wednesday through Saturday. The hours will be from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday and from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. DJ/Karaoke will be in the Dig Lounge on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights beginning on November 3. The hours for the DJ/Karaoke will be from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Current CRIT Job Opportunities

The following are some of the jobs currently open with CRIT, courtesy of the Human Resources Department. For a full listing, visit the CRIT tribal web site at www.critonline.com.

Position: Receiving/Inventory Clerk
Department: CRBM
Close date: October 21, 2008

Position: Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, Attendance/Data Specialist
Department: Head Start
Salary: \$34, 765

Position: Enrollment Secretary
Department: CRIT Enrollment
Salary: \$22,238
Close Date: Monday, October 13

Position: Enrollment Assistant
Department: CRIT Enrollment
Salary: \$28,623
Close Date: Monday, October 13

Position: Child Welfare/CWA Case Worker
Department: Health and Social Services
Salary: \$11-14 per hour
Close date: Open until filled

Position: Enterprise Accountant
Department: Accounting
Close date: Open until filled

Position: Tribal Employment Rights Director
Department: TERO
Close date: Open until filled

Position: Firefighter
Department: CRIT Fire
Close date: Friday, October 10 at 5 p.m.

Position: Staff Accountant II
Department: Finance
Close date: Open until filled

Position: Permanent Certified Scale Deputy
Department: CRIT Farms
Salary: Depends on experience

Position: Medical Records & Billing Specialist
Department: Behavioral Health
Close date: Open until filled

Position: Psychologist
Department: Behavioral Health
Close date: Open until filled

Position: Clinical Therapist
Department: Behavioral Health
Close date: Open until filled

Position: Airport Maintenance Tech/ Fueler
Department: CRIT Air
Close date: Open until filled

Position: EMT/Firefighter
Department: CRIT Fire Station 80
Salary: \$12.09 per hour

To apply or for more information, contact CRIT Human Resources at 26600 Mohave Road, Parker, 85344, or call them at (928) 669-1321.

Snapshots stream in for October photo contest



Submit now, win in December

First place in the October 2008 Photo Contest went to Tatum Nopah for her picture of Chance (above). She will receive \$100.

Second place goes to Stephanie Enas for her photo of Derrick Ray Enas (above left). She will receive \$50.

Third place goes to Kristina Logan for her photo of Jamee Kaydence Logan (below). She will receive \$25 for her entry.

Honorable mentions go to:

- Muriel Adams for her picture is of her granddaughter Alycia Stewart (middle left).
- Leisha Krumvieda for her photo of 7-year-old-son Oakley Krumvieda (bottom left).
- Crystal Carter for her photo of daughter Brianna Carter (opposite page top right).
- Terri Lewis for her photo of daughter Seneca Nizhoni Enas with Minnie Mouse

(opposite page top left).

- Liz Welsh for her photo of granddaughter Alecia Valdez (opposite page middle left).

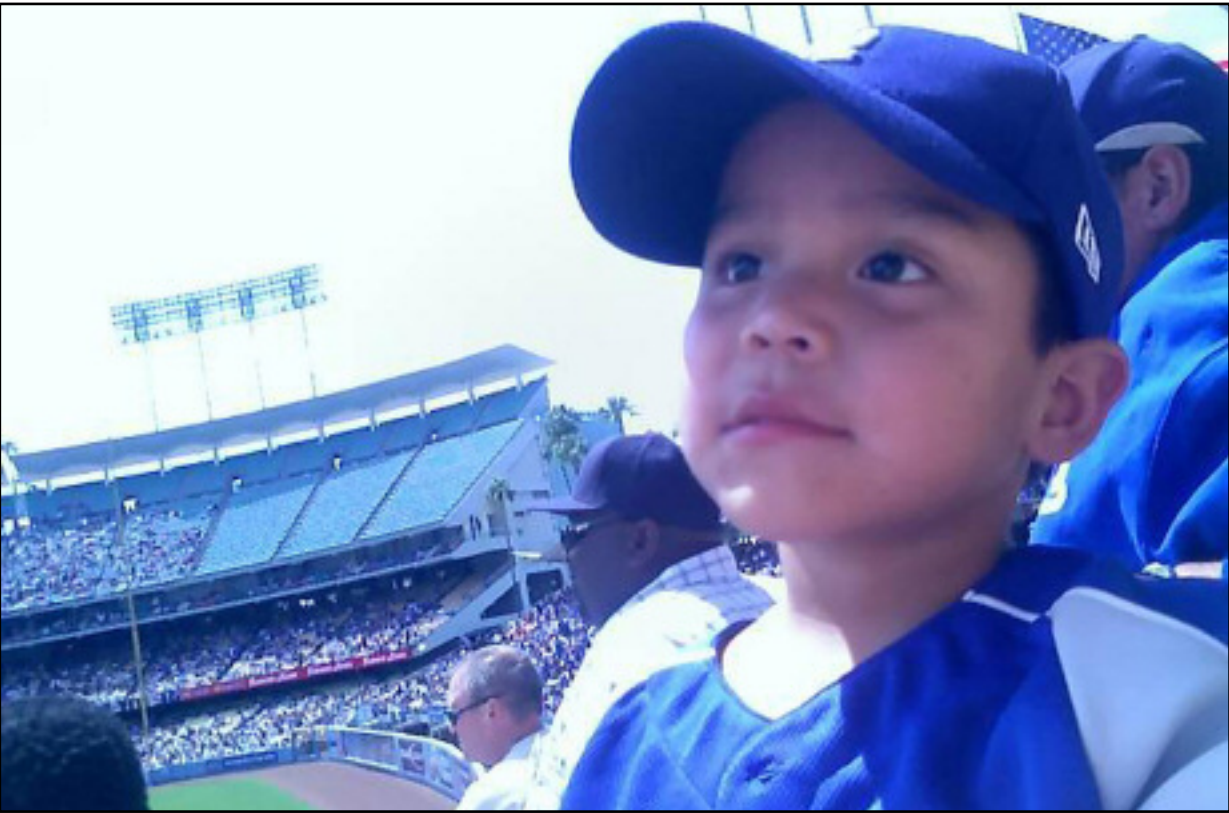
- Charles Duckey for his photo of son Simeon Duckey watching the L.A. Dodgers game (opposite page middle right).

- Laynee Baran for her photo of niece Matty Tahbo on the Colorado River (opposite page bottom left).

- JoAnne Hernandez for her photo of her cooling off with Grandson Estevan Valdez (opposite page bottom right).

The deadline for submissions for the December issue is November 15. You must be a tribal member, and no professional portraits are eligible. Send your picture to: *Manataba Messenger*, C/O Rose & Allyn, 7144 E. Stetson Drive Suite 400, Scottsdale, AZ 85251. Or, e-mail the entry to feedback@critonline.com.





EVENTS,

From Page 3

- October 7-12 — American Made, a four piece-band with a female singer playing a wide variety of classic rock, oldies, Rhythm & Blues, country, Top 40, disco and dance music.
- October 14-19 — Voo Doo, with a female fronting a three-piece band playing Top 40, dance and classic rock.
- October 21-26 — Swift Kick, with a female fronting a three-piece band specializing in current dance music along with selections from the 50s through 90s.
- October 28-November 2 — Daemine, playing classic rock, Rhythm & Blues and Top 40 dance.
- November 5-8 — Clark County Express, a four-piece band specializing in southern and classic rock and country.
- November 12-15 — Pilot, with a female fronting a three-piece band playing Rhythm & Blues, Top 40 dance, classic rock, Old School and disco.
- November 19-22 — Swift Kick.
- November 26-29 — Voo Doo.
- December 3-6 — American Made.

Announcements


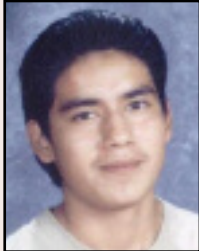
Birthdays

- Irie Marie Charles turned 1 year old on September 2. She is the daughter of Noah Charles and Marie Joaquen. Happy birthday and love, Grandparents Ron and Lillian Charles.
- September 12 — We would like to wish a Happy 2nd Birthday to Sylaus Aaron Silva. Love you Son! All our love from Mom, Sister Winnie Scott, Auntie Mina,Cousins, Tamara, Sweetie, Daniel Sharpe Jr., Grandparents Sheldon and Valerie Swick and Christopher Fisher.
- Happy Birthday October 2 to Darrin Holmes Sr. from your wife Ginger — I love you very much, from stepchildren Gerald Jr. and Ashley, and from Granddaughter Veronica Drennan.
- Happy 4th Birthday October 30 to Johanna Rose Stillman from your Mom and brother Baby J. I love you so much.
- September 4 — Happy 5th Birthday to my daughter Seneca Nizhoni Enas, from Mommy. I Love You Baby!!!

In Memory Of

- October 19 — Happy Birthday to my baby brother Alexander Chee, he would have turned 21 years old today, wish you were still here. We love and miss you very much. Your big sis, Terri Lewis (Scubb) and family.

You may send your submissions to feedback@critonline.com.

Take time to get flu shot before winter

By Lynnae Lawrence, M.D.
Parker Indian Health Center

The flu, as it is commonly called, is a highly contagious respiratory infection caused by the Influenza virus. It is spread by respiratory droplets created when people sneeze or cough. The virus can be spread by breathing in these droplets, or after touching a surface that the virus as on and then touching or rubbing your eyes, nose or mouth. It is spread more easily in the winter when people are in close contact to one another in enclosed places like schools, dorms or other facilities. There are different types or strains of the Influenza virus. The most common strains are A and B. Scientists study the most common type of flu virus that is circulating every year. They mix pieces from those strains of flu into the vaccine for each new year. The pieces from the virus strains are “inactive” and do not come from a live virus. Despite popular belief, you cannot get the flu from the flu shot. It takes about one to two weeks for the flu shot to start working to protect you. The flu shot does not protect you 100

percent, but it does reduce your chances of getting the flu by 50 to 80 percent. It will also lessen the severity of the illness if you are unlucky enough to get the flu after you receive the vaccine. The most common symptoms of the flu are fever, headache, muscle aches and feeling tired and weak. Sometimes a sore throat or cough is present. The flu can last from a few days to over a week and can be worse for people who already have medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes or heart conditions in the elderly and very young. These people are especially reminded to get their flu shot every year because they are most at risk for developing complications from the flu if they are exposed. Complications can include pneumonia and death. The best way to prevent from getting the flu is to receive your flu shot. The flu shot will be available at Parker Indian Health Center soon. The next best way to avoid getting the flu is to wash your hands frequently. Antiviral medications are available but are not used for everyone. You should not get the flu shot if you are allergic to eggs.

New Tribal IDs being issued to prevent identity theft

Due to the risks involving identity theft, a new change has been approved by the Tribal Council to begin utilizing a four-digit numbering system that would eliminate the use of Social Security numbers on Tribal ID cards. Criminals who commit identity theft often need only a Social Security number to access bank accounts or create other problems. If the new cards are lost, they will not have such information. Every enrolled member of CRIT will be given a random number to serve as their

permanent enrollment number. Tribal members requesting a new Tribal ID Card with the amended numbers will be able to receive their card at NO CHARGE. Tribal members must bring their old Tribal ID cards to the Enrollment Department to make the change. A letter will be sent to all Tribal members notifying each person of his or her assigned numbers. If you have any questions about the change, call the Enrollment Department at (928) 669-1240.

Vacancies open on CRIT boards, committees and commissions

Per action of the Tribal Council, April 12, 2008, advertisement is to begin each October for appointments to be made for various vacancies in December and commencement of respective terms in January.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY:

1. Must be a Tribal Member.
2. Must be 21 years of age or older.
3. Must reside on or within the exterior boundaries of the CRIT reservation.
4. Cannot be an employee or work in any capacity for the department or enterprise that the Committee or Board oversees.
5. Must have knowledge or related experience suitable for service on the Committee or Board he/she is applying for.
6. Must complete the Committee/Board member application available at the CRIT Administration Office.
7. Federal government employees must have written approval form their respective employer to sit on a CRIT Committee or Board.
8. Shall be subject to the standard hiring practices of the Tribe, including background checks and drug screenings.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL OF

APPLICATIONS FOR 2009 VACANCIES IS DECEMBER 5 at 5:00 p.m. at the Tribal Administration Offices.

VACANCIES:

- Irrigation: one vacancy, annually appointed.
- Big River Development Enterprise: one vacancy, three-year term
- Business Enterprise Board: two vacancies, three-year terms.
- CRIT Farm Board: two vacancies, three-year terms.
- Board of Education: two vacancies, two-year terms.
- Health Board: three vacancies, two-year terms.
- Liquor Control Board: two vacancies, two-year terms; one alternate, two-year term
- Parks & Recreation Committee: two vacancies, two-year terms; one alternate, two-year term.
- Pesticide Control Board: three vacancies, two-year terms.
- TERO Board of Commissioners: three vacancies, three-year terms.
- Ad Hoc Cemetery Committee: undefined/to be determined.

New Miss CRIT and royalty crowned at pageant



The 2008-09 Miss CRIT Pageant was held as part of the Native American Days festivities on October 3. Special thanks go to CRIT, the CRIT Museum, BWRC, Colorado River Building Materials, CRIT BRDE, CRIT Maintenance, CRIT Farms and Laura Evans. Here are the results:

Little Miss CRIT

Most Traditional: Savanna Marissa Alicia-Ann Drennan

Talent Award: Ashley Kiana Nez

2nd Attendant: Waverly Ann Booth

1st Attendant: Ashley Kiana Nez

Little Miss: Savanna Marissa Alicia-Ann Drennan

Junior Miss

Most Traditional: Christa Lynn Carter

Talent Award: ChristaLynn Carter

3rdAttendant: Aileen Ameelyenah

2nd Attendant: Kachelle Vera Carter

3rd Attendant: Nizhoni Anteya Begaye

Junior Miss: Christa Lynn Carter

Miss CRIT

Most Traditional: Hazel Flood

Talent Award: Hazel Flood

2nd Attendant: Pauline Fisher

1st Attendant: Hazel Flood

Miss CRIT: Tayla Tahbo

(Above Right) New Little Miss CRIT Savannah Drennan (middle), with Ashley Nez, 1st Attendant (left), and 2nd Attendant Wavrly Booth.

(Above Right) New Junior Miss CRIT Christa Carter.

(Middle Right) From left to right, Viola Stone, CRIT Elder 1st Attendant; Miss CRIT Tayla Tahbo; Pauline Fisher; Hazel Flood; and Ferndina Barrackman, CRIT Elder Queen.

(Below Left) From left to right, Hazel Flood, Miss CRIT 1st Attendant; Pauline Fisher, 2nd Attendant, Miss CRIT 2008-09 Tayla H. Tahbo.

(Below Right) Laura Evans with Savannah Drennan. Laura is a tribal member and dance instructor who assisted with all the three categories opening productions in the Miss CRIT Contest.



Native American Days bring cultural celebration



The 36th Annual Native American Days Celebration was a four-day festival of events that included a parade, contests and performances.

(Above Left) The Makaav Band participated in the Jamz providing their rock selections. Headlining the night was Casper Lomayesva and Mighty 602 Band from Tempe, featuring their reggae music.

(Above Right) Little Miss CRIT contestants present their opening production.

(Middle Left) Myrna Havatone, former Library employee, takes note of her name on the commemorative plaque. The Native American Days Celebration coincided with the CRIT Library's 50th Anniversary celebration.

(Bottom Left) Head Start student Matyson Tahbo is one of the first to venture to the Children's section of the newly renovated library.

(Bottom Right) The Ahkeel Dance Group from Ft. Yuma Quechan came for the celebration as their relatives had done back in the 1970s.

2008 Parade Winners

Royalty: 1st place — Miss CRIT 1st Attendant Hazel Flood; 2nd place — Jr. Miss CRIT Christa Carter

Vehicle: 1st Place — Jr. Miss 1st Attendant Nizshoni Begaye

Enterprise: Big River Development

Tribal Department: Mo-Chem-Hona's Senior Citizens Program

Walk/Marching: 1st Place — Hunters (Hopi Dancers), 2nd Place — La Paz Parade Corp

Indian Car: George Ray

Float: Carter Family

Photos courtesy of Valerie Welsh-Tahbo.



CRIT Treasurer’s Report

(Unaudited) — October 20, 2008

By Dennis Welsh, Jr., Treasurer

Table of Contents

I. Year-to-date Revenues & Expenses – Government and Enterprises

II. Status of Loans

III. Bank Account Balances and Short Term Investments

IV. Historical View of Spending Shortfall Coverage (Unaudited)

V. Summary

I. Year-to-date Revenues & Expenses (9/30/08) – Government and Enterprises

Below is a summary of the CRIT Government’s Revenues (Leases, Taxes, Enterprise Distributions, Permits and Fees, etc.) and the Expenses that are associated with running the Tribal departments and programs

Total Revenues	\$14,684,286
Total Expenses	\$16,150,808
Net Difference	\$(1,466,522)

Note: The CRIT General Ledger does not accurately reflect the year-to-date revenues from the CRIT Auto Shop, nor the Tax Revenue Account, which in the aggregate approximates \$3 million. The General Ledger also does not reflect the \$1.2 million that was distributed by Moovalya Plaza in July, 2008 to the General Fund.

II. Status of Loans

Currently, CRIT has two outstanding loans with the National Bank of Arizona (NBAZ). Below are the details of the loans:

<u>Loan</u>	<u>Original Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Monthly Payment</u>	<u>Orig Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Rate</u>
901	\$18,000,000	\$5,417,835	\$262,954	8/11/03	8/11/10	6.00%
9002	11,000,000	4,135,614	162,002	9/13/04	9/13/11	6.24%
Total	\$ 29,000,000	\$ 9,553,449	\$ 424,956			

III. Summary of Bank Account Balances and Short Term Investments

General Fund, Grant and Contracts	\$18,000,000
Enterprises Excl. Casino and Resort	8,900,000
Casino and Resort	3,700,000
Total	\$30,600,000

IV. Historical View of Spending Shortfall Coverage (Unaudited)

The following figures were derived internally based on unaudited financial information available. The data is reliable enough to provide the Tribal Council a snapshot of how CRIT has managed to meet its recent budget shortfalls.

<u>Expressed in Millions</u>			
<u>Category</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>Projected 2008</u>
Government Revenues	\$15.3	\$13.0	\$11.8
Government Expenses	23.7	19.8	22.5
Net Overspent	\$ (8.4)	\$ (6.8)	\$(10.7)
Shortfall Coverage By:			
Casino	\$(8.4)	\$(6.4)	\$(2.3)
Enterprises	---	(0.4)	(3.7)
PCL Construction Windfall	---	---	(4.7)
Total	\$(8.4)	\$(6.8)	\$(10.7)

V. Summary

The above information demonstrates that the CRIT Tribal Council must begin accurate, responsive budget planning for 2009, and reduce government spending immediately.

Historically, the CRIT Government has relied heavily upon the Blue Water Resort & Casino to contribute to its general fund. Due to the decline in the national economy, the Casino is currently experiencing a severe drop in its projected revenues. While the revenues of the BlueWater Resort & Casino have improved somewhat as a result of better marketing, employee layoffs and other expense reductions, the Casino may not be able to meet its future profit distributions to the CRIT Government. In the future, the Tribal Council will need to depend more heavily on profit distributions from Tribal enterprises. This could have a negative effect on the future operations of those Enterprises that have been planning for further development to increase profits, or for new revenue generating enterprises.

On a more positive note, the Tribal Council has begun taking the following steps to improve the CRIT Government’s financial status:

1. Passed two resolutions that hold the Tribal Council, Tribal

departments and Tribal enterprises more accountable for passing timely and balanced budgets and centralizing financial reporting requirements for Tribal departments and enterprises.

2. Committed to completing audited financial statements in a timely manner. This will give the Tribes access to more timely and accurate financial information and will enable CRIT to once again receive advance funding for its grant and contract programs.

3. Changed its health care insurance policy resulting in projected saving of \$2 million in 2009, and began looking for ways to reduce

property and casualty insurance.

4. Began working with a payroll processing company to help reduce the internal costs of payroll while creating a more efficient payroll process for the Accounting Department, Tribal departments, Tribal enterprises and the Tribal Council. More importantly, the outsourcing of CRIT’s payroll will also help reduce IRS penalties and liabilities that have cost CRIT hundreds of thousands of dollars in years past.

5. Began investing in a new accounting software system that will help the CRIT Government better manage its financial resources, and lead to more timely financial statements. In the past, the lack of up-to-date financial data has cost CRIT many financial opportunities, as well as costly IRS penalties and additional auditing costs.

6. Currently looking to reduce the Tribal vehicle fleet which is a major expense.

According to a 90-day Cash Flow Statement (October 1 to December 31), the CRIT Government is currently looking at a potential deficit of up to \$4.4 million. In order to address the deficit, the Tribal Council has three options:

- Draw down Enterprise funds to cover the deficit (short term fix);
- Begin implementing emergency measures to reduce 2008 expenses currently projected to reach nearly \$22 million; or
- Take strong administrative actions to reduce expenditures through 2009 while only drawing down the essential funds from the Enterprises.

In order to get through these difficult financial times, it is absolutely necessary that the Tribal Council, Tribal departments and Tribal enterprises adopt strict measures to control expenses.

According to nearly every financial professional that has worked for CRIT in recent years, the CRIT Government has been expending funds far beyond its financial means. If the Tribal Council does not adopt a plan of action to reduce expenditures, CRIT will likely be forced to make drastic cuts in 2009.

Local, state and federal offices to be decided in November 4 vote

Below is a list of races for local, state and federal office on the November 4 ballot:

La Paz County Supervisor, District 1
Sandy Norris Pierce (D)
Sam Heeringa (R)

La Paz County Supervisor, District 2
Roberta Hoffman (D)
John Drum (R)

La Paz County Supervisor, District 3
James L. “Jim” Slawson (D)
Holly Irwin (R)

La Paz County Attorney
Kathy Field (D)
Sam Vederman (R)

La Paz County Sheriff
Donald Lowery (D)
Hal Collett (R)

La Paz County Treasurer
Ellen Solper (D)

La Paz County School Superintendent
Janice Shelton (R)

La Paz County Recorder
Shelly Baker (R)

La Paz County Assessor
William “Squeak” Kossnar (D)
George Nault (R)

La Paz County Constable #6
W.D. “Buddy” Rapp (R)

Parker Fire District Chief
Karl Hartmetz
Johnny Rather

Parker Fire District Secretary/Treasurer
Rodney McVey

Buckskin Sanitary District
Robert Cozby
Gary Hansen
William Risen
Shelly M. Rohde

Parker Unified School District Board
Deanna L. Beaver
Edwin Benson
Margaret Dewey

State Senator, District 3
Mary Landahl (D)
Ron Gould (R)

State Representative, District 3
Pamela Durbin (D)
Doris Goodale (R)
Nancy McLain (R)

State Senator, District 24
Amanda Aguirre (D)
Jack Kretzer (G)

State Representative, District 24

Lynne Pancrazi (D)
Theresa Ulmer (D)
Russ Jones (R)

Arizona Corporation Commission
Sam George (D)
Sandra Kennedy (D)
Paul Newman (D)
Marian McClure (R)
Bob Stump (R)
Barry Wong (R)

U.S. House of Representatives, District 2
John Thrasher (D)
William Crum (G)
Powell Gammil (L)
Trent Franks (R)

U.S. House of Representatives, District 7
Raúl Grijalva (D)
Raymond Patrick Petrulsky (L)
Joseph Sweeney (R)

U.S. President
Barack Obama (D)
Cynthia McKinney (G)
Bob Barr (L)
John McCain (R)

The La Paz County Elections Office can help you make sure you are registered to vote and find your polling location for the November 4 Election. Contact the Office at (928) 669-6115, or visit www.co.la-paz.az.us/elections.htm to find out more information.

Ballot propositions and initiatives cover wide range of issues

Arizona voters will also decide on a wide range of ballot initiatives and propositions. Here’s a breakdown of those propositions and some of the arguments for and against them, courtesy of the Secretary of State’s Office:

Proposition 100

Proposition 100 would amend Arizona’s constitution to prohibit the state or any county, city, town or other political subdivision of the state from directly or indirectly imposing any new tax, fee, or other assessment on the sale, purchase, transfer or other conveyance of any interest in real property (such as homes and other real estate).

PRO: Would prevent more real estate taxes.
CON: Would take away a potential source of revenue for the state.

Proposition 101

Proposition 101 would amend the Arizona Constitution to provide that no law shall:

- 1) Restrict a person’s freedom to choose a private health care plan or system of their choice.
- 2) Interfere with a person’s or entity’s right to pay directly for lawful medical services.
- 3) Impose a penalty or fine, of any type, for choosing to obtain or decline health care coverage.
- 4) Impose a penalty or fine, of any type, for participation in any particular health care system or plan.

PRO: Would preserve the rights of Arizonans

to make their own health care decisions.
CON: Would prevent health care reform; isn’t necessary.

Proposition 102

Proposition 102 would amend the Arizona Constitution to provide that only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in this state.

PRO: Marriage should be clearly and permanently defined in the Constitution.
CON: Marriage is already defined by state law.

Proposition 105

Proposition 105 would amend the Arizona Constitution to provide that an initiative measure that establishes, imposes or raises a tax, a fee or other revenue or mandates a spending obligation on a private person, a labor organization, other private legal entity or this state shall not become law unless the initiative measure is approved at the election by a majority of qualified electors registered to vote in the state.

PRO: Would make tax increases more difficult to pass.
CON: Would damage citizen government by dramatically altering the initiative process.

Proposition 200

Proposition 200 would reform payday lending in Arizona in a number of ways, including lowering payday loan fees and eliminating payday loan extensions. It would also extend the state

law allowing payday lenders to operate in Arizona, which currently expires in 2010.

PRO: Payday loans are necessary and can be reformed to be a better financial option.
CON: Payday loans are expensive and should be done away with.

Proposition 201

Proposition 201 makes mandatory changes to the legal procedures for those who purchase a home and wish to sue a builder or contractor for construction defects, and would mandate a 10-year warranty on new homes.

PRO: Would protect homebuyers.
CON: Would result in extensive litigation and is unnecessary.

Proposition 202

Proposition 202 would make changes to the state’s “employer sanctions” law that makes it illegal for a business to intentionally or knowingly hire an illegal alien who is not authorized to work in the United States.

PRO: Would refine law preventing hiring of illegal immigrants.
CON: Would weaken the law, not refine it.

Proposition 300

Proposition 300 would raise salaries for state legislators from \$24,000 per year to \$30,000 per year.

PRO: Legislators are underpaid in Arizona.
CON: Legislators don’t need pay raises.

Grant to help build first new housing in Parker since 1980s

CRIT has received a significant grant from the Arizona Department of Housing that will allow it to build some of the first new housing in Parker in two decades.

CRIT's Colorado River Residential Management Corporation received the grant from the state's Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program this year after applying to receive it last year and being rejected.

The grant will allow for the construction of 25 new housing units — both single-family and duplex homes — which will be constructed on 16th Street in Parker across from CRIT Lodge.

The project will be one of the largest projects the organization has undertaken since 1980.

"It's going to provide much needed housing, which we're short of right now," said Richard Armstrong, a Tribal Council member and Chairman of the CRRMC Board.

Armstrong said there are about 50 families on the waiting list for a home right now, and the 25 new homes will help alleviate that backlog.

"It will give people who are working but struggling to have decent housing a new opportunity," he said.

Rents on the homes are expected to be as low

"It's going to provide much-needed housing, which we're short of right now...It will give people who are working but struggling to have decent housing a new opportunity."

**— Richard Armstrong
Chairman of the Board
Colorado River Residential Management Corp.**

as \$300 per month because of the grant opportunity.

The grant will also cover improvements to CRIT Lodge itself, which is used for elderly housing. The improvements will include renovations of the 25 individual units and the lodge itself. Those renovations include making the units handicap accessible.

"We're going to take off the doorknobs, and then everything else will be replaced," said Dave Hillary, Executive Director of CRRMC, tongue-in-cheek.

The CRIT Lodge units will be completely remodeled by May 2009, and the 25 new homes will be built by December 2009.

The new homes are the first opportunity for Tribal members in Parker to have a chance to live in new homes since the 1980s.

"It's a tremendous opportunity for us, and it's the result of a lot of support from the community," Hillary said.

CRRMC is also in the process of building two new "ownership" homes in Parker at the present time. And, as part of the new home construction, CRRMC plans on ramping up education efforts for Tribal members on home ownership.

Armstrong and Hillary said that they hope to get good tenants in the new homes who will take pride in the properties and appreciate the opportunity.

They said that those not currently on the waiting list for a new home who are interested in one should visit the CRRMC office and pick up an application now, so that they can have an opportunity at a new home sooner.

Armstrong wanted to recognize the CRRMC board members who worked diligently to make the grant a reality. They are Richard Armstrong, Chairman; Ray Aspa, Sr., Vice Chairman; Ron Charles, Secretary; Valerie Welsh-Tahbo and Rebecca Swick.

CRIT Police Department restructuring to better serve members

Moves include adding positions, re-evaluating Department resources

The CRIT Police Department is in the process of restructuring in order to prepare itself for future growth and needs.

Richard Armstrong, CRIT Police Chief and a Tribal Council member, said that the goal of the restructuring effort is to improve the department's service to members.

"We want to put people in positions that have the ability to anticipate and develop plans for the future," he said.

Armstrong said that growth in the Parker area will also mean more offenders and the need for better police protection.

Some of the changes being made to the department include:

- Adding more police positions — about 10 positions total in the department.

- Redefining the role of CRIT's air support and helicopter.
- Redefining the structure and duties of the Chief of Police position.
- Addition of a Deputy Chief position as well as the position of Captain.
- Adding a criminal investigation component to the force.
- Adding a substation in California to serve residents there.

The changes are being reviewed by the Tribal Council, but some of the elements of the restructuring have already been implemented by the department.

"Money is limited, so we have to plan very carefully how we move forward," Armstrong said.

He added that the Tribal Council has been very supportive of public safety efforts for the past several years, and is confident they will support the changes.

"Officer Bear" back on job

The CRIT Police Department has relaunched its "Officer Bear" program in local schools.

Officer Bear is CRIT's answer to McGruff The Crime Dog, the lovable pooch that was the center of youth crime prevention efforts for many years.

Officer Bear was retired in 1999 but recently began to visit local schools and community groups once again to spread his crime-prevention message.

"We want to promote health, safety and well-being in the community, and he's here to help with that," said CRIT Police Chief Richard Armstrong.

Officer Bear speaks to young people about such issues as bullying, respect for authority and elders, crime prevention and child safety.

"We're starting with fairly simple programs for now and then we will evaluate from there," Armstrong said. "We'll eventually go into 'stranger danger' and other areas."

Officer Bear has been providing programming for ages ranging from preschool to high school.

Armstrong said the reception from the community has been very strong and that the department is pleased to be able to provide this resource to Parker residents and tribal members once again.

"It's an exciting time to be putting all this together," he said.

"It has been a long time coming, and we want to make sure we have input from the community about the program in the future."

Notice for Public Comments

Proposed Domestic and Family Violence Code

Available at the CRIT Library and
www.critonline.com

A Public Hearing will be held on Monday
November 10, 2007, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in
Council Chambers for public feedback.

We Want To Hear From You!

The *Manataba Messenger* is a publication of the Colorado River Indian Tribes.
 If you have a question, story idea, suggestion, letter to the editor or anything else you'd like to see in the *Manataba Messenger*, call or write us...

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Also, for a comprehensive listing of key tribal information, back issues of *The Manataba Messenger*, tourism information and other CRIT Tribal information, visit the Tribes' web site:

www.critonline.com

Don't forget the
 December photo contest!

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Now you can reach the 3,800 members of the Colorado River Indian Tribes directly. *Manataba Messenger*, the official publication of CRIT, is distributed by mail to all members and at newsstands at prominent locations throughout the Parker area, including the BlueWater Resort & Casino.
 For more information, please call (928) 669-1233 or 669-1223.

ELECTION,
 From Page 1

designated to accept resignations and present them to Tribal Council.
 • Friday, October 10 — Posting of the Eligible Voter's List in designated areas: Tribal Administrative Center, PHS Indian Hospital, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Irataba Hall, Parker Post Office, Poston Post Office.
 • Saturday, October 11 — Regular Tribal Council meeting. Tribal Council to declare vacant Tribal Council positions.
 • Monday, October 13 — Petitions available for candidates at the Enrollment Department, Tribal Administrative Center.
 • Thursday, November 6 — Petition Deadline for all candidates. Petitions are to be returned to the Enrollment Department by 5 p.m. Election board applications are due by 5 p.m.
 • Friday, November 7 — Special Tribal Council meeting at 9 a.m. Tribal Council to certify petitions of candidates. Review of any referenda to be included on the election ballot. Review and select the Election Ballot Format. Selection of the Election Board Committee.
 • Wednesday, November 12 — Posting names of qualified candidates in the Tribal Administrative Center and the PHS Indian Hospital.

• Thursday, November 13 — Absentee Ballot Request Forms due by 5 p.m.
 • Monday, November 17 — Election Board Meeting at 6 p.m. Mail-out of absentee ballots requested by Tribal members.
 • Monday, November 27 — Election Board Meeting at 6 p.m. Counting of ballots and scaling of ballot boxes.
 • Saturday, December 6 — General Election, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 DISTRICT I — Tribal Administrative Center
 DISTRICT II — Headstart Valley School
 • Monday, December 8 — Certification of the election results by the Tribal Council at 9 a.m. in the Tribal Council chambers. Open to the public.
 • Friday, January 2, 2007 — Installation of Tribal Council members at 9 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers.
 Any member of the Colorado River Indian Tribes who meets certain criteria, and who turns in a nominating petition with at least 10 signatures from active Tribal members over 18 years of age no later than 30 days before the election, may run for a Tribal Council position.
 The criteria mentioned above include being an enrolled member of CRIT, being at least 25 years old, and living on the CRIT reservation for at least one year before the election.
 The *Manataba Messenger* will include statements from those running for office in the December issue.

WAL-MART,
 From Page 1

variety of other stores as well.
 CRIT will be leasing the other parts of the property so that it has control over the types of businesses that come into the community and can secure the revenue streams created from those stores. Wal-Mart will account for 11 acres of the 23-acre shopping center site. CRIT will control the other 12 acres.

"It's a significant opportunity for CRIT to generate revenue for Tribal services and new jobs for Tribal members," Eddy Jr. said.
 In addition to creating more shopping choices for area residents and tribal members, the economic impact and job creation from the shopping center will be substantial.
 The new Wal-Mart store will create an estimated 200 new jobs and up to \$400,000 per year in sales tax revenue for CRIT, which will help fund youth, elder and other important Tribal programs.



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